

February 26, 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Hong ZHANG et al.  
**Serial No.:** Not yet assigned.  
**Filed:** Concurrently herewith.  
**Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DERIVING OPTIMAL  
PATHS THROUGH A NETWORK SUBJECT TO A SUBSET  
SEQUENCE CONSTRAINT  
**Agent of Record:** Max R. Wood **Tel:** (613) 780-8681

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**Mail Stop DD**

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
U.S.A.

Sir:


**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PRIOR TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, copies of the references listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

The Examiner is kindly requested to consider these references during the examination of the above-identified application, making the references of record, and to return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form to the below-signed agent.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the submission of the present information is not to be construed as an admission that such information is, or is considered to be material to patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Encls.

Form PTO-1449 (Rev.7-80)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 9-13528-202US	SERIAL NO. Not yet assigned.
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Hong ZHANG et al.	
		FILING DATE: Concurrently herewith.	GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	6,044,075	28 Mar./00	Le Boudec et al.	370	351	15 Dec./94
	AB	6,195,553	27 Feb./01	Claffery et al.	455	445	20 Apr./99
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

OTHER REFERENCES *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner	Date considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	